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THE TRUE
PICTURE
OF A

Modern Whig,

Set forth in a

DIALOGUE

BETWEEN

Mr. *Whiglove* & Mr. *Double*,

Two Under-Spur-Leathers to the late
MINISTRY.

The Fourth Edition.

L O N D O N :

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THE TRUE
PICTURE
OF A
Modern Whig, &c.

Whiglove and Double.

Wh. **S**IR I am glad to meet you at *Garraways*. I was coming to your House.

Do. And I came hither on purpose to find you : 'Tis very early, and there is no Body upon the *Exchange*, when you have drunk your Tea, if you please let us take a Turn there. Pray when do you think of going into the Country ?

Wh. In three days at farthest ; but I was resolv'd not to stir till I had receiv'd your particular Directions how I shall behave my self in my Progress.

Do. What Circuit have our noble Friends allotted you ?

Wh. I am order'd for *Kent* and *Sussex* ; my Cousin *Rattlehead* went yesterday for *Essex*,
Suf-

Suffolk and *Norfolk*; *Mr. Selfish* and *Mr. Project* have all the North committed to their Care; besides the common Concern, they have Business of their own, they are gone to look upon some Estates that are to be sold, and have a great deal of Money to lay out.

Do. Indeed they have made a fine Hand of these Times, you and I knew 'em both ten Years ago not worth a Groat, and now each of 'em has his threescore thousand Pound ready for a Purchase.

Wh. And the Wonder is, they have got all this in little sneaking Employments, which heretofore did not afford a Man a Bottle of Claret at Night.

Do. Well much good may do their Hearts, for tho' they have notoriously cheated the King and Kingdom, they are very honest and hearty to us. There is no Lye never so gross they are not willing to spread abroad to carry on our Designs. They disperse News, Rail at some, and Cry up others, just as they are directed; and, to speak Truth, there are not two Men in *England* that do more Service to the Party.

Wh. I wish we had some more so qualify'd to make a Progress through the other Counties; but, I am sorry to see it, there are a great many who tho' they have made their Fortunes among us, are ready to change Sides. Have not you been told at whose House *Mr. Rakeall* and *Mr. Plunder* were t'other day cringing? There are not two more worthless Rogues in the Kingdom. One of 'em was rais'd from nothing by my Lord O. my Lord H. put the
other

other in a way to make a prodigious Fortune, which he has done, and yet forsooth they must be creeping to the new Ministers. I should be glad to see such Raskals as poor as *Will. Killigrew*.

Do. Look you Friend mine do not be troubled at this ; 'tis the Principle of us Modern Whigs to get what we can, no matter how. But if the other Side prevails, we must strike in with them, however this must be our last Shift ; in the mean while let us do what we can to keep up our Party, for Men of our Principles can never thrive so well under any new Ministry as we did by the last, our Endeavours therefore must be to bring them once more into Play for many Reasons. They made use of none but such as were of our Stamp and Kidney ; we had all the Places and Preferments, and then you know how kindly they wink'd at our cheating the Publick, and if any of us were caught Tripping how bravely did they defend us in the House of Commons. Have they ever suffer'd any of us to be brought to Condign Punishment ? When any of the Country-Puts had a mind to save the Nation in its Taxes, and to inquire into Abuses, and into the Expence of the Mony they had granted, did not our noble Friends always baffle them and their Inquiries, and bring us off triumphantly ?

Wh. I know you will never see such brave Times as you had under them, it rain'd Gold and Silver, you wallow'd in the Peoples Wealth, and if you could have held it ten years longer, you had bought all those Country

Boobies out of their Estates, who were went to roar at you in *St. Stephen's Chappel*.

Do. Well, all may be retriev'd if we are stirring, and if we can but get the common People to be a little more of our Side; nor is this hard to be done if we proceed to Lye and Rail stoutly, and if we continue to out-face Truth and Reason with our wonted Confidence.

Wh. I shall do my part if others will likewise set their Hands chearfully to the Plough.

Do. That you need not fear, want of Diligence has never been imputed to our Party. Laziness is the Fault of the other Side. Did we not bestir our selves finely towards the latter end of the last Sessions? Every Body gave us for gone, we expected to be call'd to Account for all our former Rogueries, we dreamt of nothing but Pillories, Halters and Axes, and yet you saw what an After-game we play'd, by only devising a few Lies which were spread seasonably through the Kingdom: We took Advantage of the Fears People were under to see *France* and *Spain* united; and tho', under the *Rose*, the Partition-Treaty our Noble Friends had made with Count *Tallard* the French Ambassador did throw *Spain* into the French Power, and was the Occasion of that cursed Will which is like to bring so many Mischiefs upon *Europe*; and tho', to confess the Truth, the Management of our Party has made *France* so great, yet we found Means by some or other of our Faction in the City, and in all the Burrough-Towns of *England*, to lay the whole Blame upon the new Ministers, and upon the House of Commons. We bellow'd eve-

ry where (tho' we had not the least proof of it, nay tho' we our selves knew the contrary) That the new Ministers kept off the Parliament, That the House of Commons would give the King no Supplies, That they were all brib'd by *France*; and though our best Friend the Ch——r had but a few Months before writ Word to the King, *That there was a deadness and want of Spirit in the Nation universally, so as not at all to be dispos'd to the Thoughts of entering into a new War; and that they seem'd to be tired out with Taxes to a degree beyond what was discerned, until it appeared upon occasion of the late Elections;* yet we roar'd every where for entering Hand over Head into an immediate War.

Wh. But were not we a little too hot in that Matter to desire a War should be proclaim'd before any Alliances were concerted, while all our Merchants Effects were abroad, and before our Fleet was in any kind of readiness? Might not so sudden a Quarrel with our Neighbours have hurt the Nation very much?

Do. Prithee what's the Nation to us, provided our Friends get into Power, and are in a Condition to make us thrive? If you talk or think of the Publick-Good, you will never become a right Modern Whig. Did not this Crying-out for a War work to our Ends? Had it not like to have set the Nation in a Flame? Did it not make the People begin to suspect all the best Patriots? Was it not so order'd, that all they who withstood our Madness were esteemed to be in the Interest of *France*? Did not we get a good sawcy Peti-

tion from your County of *Kent*? Were not Hands gathering for Petitions in several other Counties? Did we not so impose upon the grave City of *London*, as to lose our Petition but by one Voice in the Common-Council? If the Frolick had gone round the Nation as was intended, had we not fair Hopes of making an irreconcilable Difference between the Rabble and the House of Commons? So that by talking big for a Foreign War, we had no ill Prospect of stirring up a Civil War at Home, which is our true Aim, and which indeed we want at present; for to deal plainly with you, in whom I dare confide, our Party did behave themselves in such a manner while they were in Power, they did Rob the Nation to that degree in all the Stations they were in, and they are answerable for so many Crimes; that we have but two Things to trust to, we must either bring our Friends again into Play, who will protect us, or we must raise Seditions and Tumults, during which we may hope to pass unregarded, or at least unpunished.

Wh. I stand corrected, and allow you had Reason to go on precipitately to a War; for you had rais'd a Noble Ferment in the Nation, a competent Number of the People were ripe for any Mischief, and you had got a good Share of the Mob of your Side, even against a House of Commons, which hardly ever happen'd before in *England*. And when I consider these Things, I cannot but wonder how Matters came to end so quietly.

Do. You shall see that presently. But first let me tell you our Design was well laid: We
drew

drew a Sword upon the House of Commons that had two Edges. If by our Petitions we had frightened 'em into an immediate Rupture with our Neighbours, it had been call'd our War, and by the Strength of our Faction we had then brought our Friends into the whole Management of it. On the other hand, if they had flatly oppos'd us, and declar'd for Peace, we would have made *Jacobite* and *French Pensioner*, so ring through the whole Kingdom, that a Dissolution should have been unavoidable, which if we could have obtained, the Game had been our own; for, in such a Heat as an abrupt Dissolution occasions, we should have made the People believe that the *French* and *Popery* were coming in if all our brib'd Band of my Lord S——r's and my Lord H——x's Tools and Flatterers were not Elected. And if we could but have seen such another Parliament as that which sat six Years, and as that which follow'd, we had so establish'd our selves that nothing could have shaken us for the future.

Wh. All this was well laid; it remains to shew how your Measures came to be broken.

Do. The Temperate Proceedings of the House of Commons blew these fine Projections of ours into Smoak. They encounter'd our Noise and Fury with sedate Gravity and Wisdom. They despis'd our Libels and scurrilous Discourses; so that we whom Opposition would have render'd considerable, became nothing when the Humour was suffer'd to spend it self without being regarded. The Truth of it is, there's *Seymour*, *Musgrave*, and five or six

six old Stagers of 'em, who mind popular Clamours no more than the whistling of the Wind, and so they persue what appears to them honourable and safe for *England*, they value not of a Button all that we can write or speak. This Calmness, I say, of the House of Commons, did quite put us beside all our Play; we hop'd our Insolence, and the Invasions which were elsewhere made upon their Priviledges, would have put them upon some warm way of vindicating their Rights: We hop'd, that as their Ancestors had done upon the like Occasions, they would have stop'd short, and given no more Supplies till full Satisfaction had been made for the repeated Affronts done to their Authority; but instead of this, and instead of being in the Flame we wish'd for, they went steddily on in providing for the Kingdom's Safety, and in supplying the King with five and twenty hundred thousand Pound, all upon good Funds, which is more than any of our Princes ever had in a Year of Peace. But that which most of all confounded us, was their last Address, where they say, *That they will be ready on all Occasions to assist his Majesty in supporting such Alliances as his Majesty shall think fit to make in Conjunction with the Emperor and States General, for the preservation of the Liberties of Europe, &c.* For the King, fortify'd by this strong Resplution of his People, has it in his Power to espouse the House of *Austria's* Quarrel, and to engage us in a War, if he thinks War necessary at this time for the preservation of the Liberty of *Europe*. This Vote is an Evidence that

that the Commons trust the King, and his Majesty's Speech at the close of the Sessions, is a Proof that the King was fully satisfied with the Proceedings of his Commons. These Transactions made Things conclude so quietly, to our great disappointment; so that we have no Game now to play but by new Lies and Inventions, to raise fresh Animosities in the Kingdom.

Wh. But pray tell me, the Commons having in this manner encourag'd the King to enter into new Alliances, and with the Emperor, and the Emperor having drawn his Sword in *Italy*, will not *England* be brought in at last? And have we not fair Hopes of a War which you seem so much to wish for?

Do. The Parliament no doubt will stand by the Alliances they have advis'd and address'd for: But what good will that do us? A War upon a right Foundation will profit us Nothing. Your *Seymours*, your *Musgraves*, your *Jack Hews*, your *Harleys*, your *Harcourts*, your *Foleys*, your *Copleys*, *Mackworths*, *Bromlys*, *Levison Gowers*, *Bridges's*, your *Byerlys*, *Hammonds*, and your *Showers*, will all come into such a War, and shine in the House of Commons at the Head of such a Business; but our Party can reap no Advantage but by a long, bloody and expensive War, begun and carry'd on against all Right and Reason: we want such a War as no Body in the Nation but our selves will be willing to support, and then we shall have the singring of all the Mony that must be given to maintain it, which is what we would be at. As for Example, a War to have justified

fied the Partition Treaty would have done our work, for that was a Matter few in Parliament, but Men of our stamp, would have engag'd in: Or we could like well enough a War to justify the Emperor in his Pretensions to the whole Succession of *Spain*; tho' all sober Men will think that not very feasible.

Wh. I am glad you have given me this hint; you would have me then say in the Countries where I go, that nothing will do but quite to dethrone the Duke of *Anjou*.

Do. Yes by all Means cry up that Project; 'tis true grave People may laugh at you, and tell you 'tis not so easily to be done; but if they do, whisper it about that they are *Jacobites* and *French Pensioners*; and at every turn when you want an Answer, be sure to have those words ready in your Mouth.

Wh. I shall learn my Lesson. But will a War upon no other Foot serve our Ends?

Do. Take it from me Sir, nothing else will do. For put the Case now that the Intentions of those who govern at present be to make War with the *French*, unless they remove their Troops out of all the *Spanish* Dominions whatsoever, and give the *Dutch* a sufficient and a safe Barrier, and unless they will give the Emperor reasonable Satisfaction, and such a Part of the *Spanish* Succession, as may make the House of *Austria* more a Ballance to the *French* Power: If that be the Scheme, let me tell you the Country Gentlemen will unanimously come into it; they will be One and All for such a just and reasonable War, and there will be such a right Understanding between

tween the King and his House of Commons, as must end inevitably in the calling our Noble Friends to a strict Account for all their past Proceedings.

Wh. Indeed, Sir, we are all satisfied that nothing makes more for the Interest of our Party than that there should be a constant disagreement either between the two Houses or between the King and his House of Commons.

Do. You take the thing justly. But by the way, least I forget it, remember every where to cry up the Partition Treaty. They'll perhaps say it has been damn'd by both Houses of Parliament; no matter for that, do you reply, They condemn'd it before they understood it rightly; and then shrug up your Shoulders, and cry, *I wish we had it now, 'twere better France had a part than the whole; I wish the Dauphin had Naples and Sicily, his Father will have all: I warrant you, the Arch-Duke would be glad at present to have Spain and the West-Indies.* For tho' all this is nothing but Fallacy, and tho' the part allotted to the French would soon have made 'em certain Masters of the whole, yet what I bid you say will pass well enough among many of the Fools you are to converse with.

Wh. Truly, Sir, I am very much beholden to you for the Light you give me; but you are at the Fountain-Head. I am glad to drink of the Water that runs below; you keep all the best Company; I see our noble Friends, when they do us the honour to come to *Garraway's*, take you along with 'em to dinner, at *Punto rack's*, or at the *Rummer*, where they open *Do.* you all the Mysterics of State.

Do. Their Lordships are indeed Communicative enough, and extreamly Civil, especially when they are under Diversity of any kind. They were, perhaps, a little too haughty when they had all in their Hands, but now they are as kind and familiar as you would wish 'em. But I gad they dare not be otherwise to me, I know 'em inside and outside; I am Master of all their private Affairs; I am privy to all the Corruption in their respective Offices; most of their Bribes went through my Hands; I know the bottom of the Transaction with *Michael Godfrey*, when the Bank of *England* was set up; I was the Go-between when the New *East-India* Company was erected; I could tell you what Lords perswaded *Seignoret*, and the other *French* Merchants to plead Guilty to their Impeachments; I know the whole Matter of the Prize Office; I can tell you who was to have had *Helmshley*, if the Bill had pass'd against *Duncombe*, and who were to have shared all the rest of his Mannors. The Knowledge of these and many other Things makes me fear'd and vallu'd by the whole Party. And take this for a Rule, if you would be respected by Great Men, you must wind your self into all their dangerous Secrets. Besides, I have good store of Money in my Pocket; and he who has that shall be esteem'd and courted, let his Birth be never so mean, or his Life never so infamous.

Wh. This has been a happy Revolution to you, Mr. *Double*, for if I am not misinform'd, Matters are well mended with you of late Years.

Do.

Do. They are so, Thanks to my Industry. I am now worth Fifty thousand Pound, and 14 years ago I had not Shoes to my Feet.

Wh. This is a strange and sudden Rise.

Do. Alas 'tis nothing, I can name you fifty of our Friends who have got much better Fortunes since the Revolution, and from as poor Beginnings.

Wh. It would serve as a good Instruction if you would please to let me know how you did rise in the World. I am a Gentleman born to some Fortune and have good Relations, yet I can do nothing, and rather grow worse than better in my Estate, notwithstanding that all along I have been as hearty a Whig as the best of you.

Do. That's true, but you have been always a Whig out of Principle, and we have no regard for such People at all, they are Volunteers that will serve us for nothing; we value none but those who are Whigs out of Interest, and who like Captain *Bessus* in the Play, are ready to do any thing, Good, Bad, or Indifferent, that may promote our Designs. I'll lay a Guinea you think I was always a Whig.

Wh. Truly, Sir, I ever took you for an Original stanch Whig, and for one who had despis'd the Church, and disliked Kingly Government from your very Cradle.

Do. Alas you are utterly mistaken, and if you can make any Profit from Example, I will give you a short Narrative of my whole Life. I was first bound to a Shoemaker in London, and being an impudent young Rogue, I got into the Gang of Loyal Apprentices that Address'd

dress'd to King *Charles II.* and I was one of those who were Treated with, *Hide-Park Venison* at the *Wonder Tavern*. My Grandmother, who sold Barly-broth and Furmity by *Fleet-ditch*, died and left me three hundred Pound, with which I set up for a Gentleman and a Spark; and I was so remarkable a *Tory*, that I got a Place in the Customs of about a hundred Pounds a year. But in King *James's* time, the Commissioners of the Customs detected me in a notorious Fraud, and turn'd me out, upon which I became a Male-Content.

Wh. I remember now the first time I saw you was in the beginning of King *James's* Reign, at the *Amsterdam* Coffee-house, where one that had been a Servant to King *Charles II.* was so uncivil as to strike you 16 or 17 times with a Cane for Railing at his dead Master; which Rebuke you bore with a Temper well becoming your Wisdom.

Do. I have not forgot that Passage. But to go on with my Story. From the time I lost my Office, I became a furious Whig, and as long as my Mony lasted, I went to all the discontented Clubs in Town, where we drank Confusion to the Government, and talk'd Treason Dagger out of Sheath. But I was still so wise to set down in Writing when I came home, what had pass'd among us.

Wh. Why did you that?

Do. To be safe; for with those Materials I was prepar'd to be a Witness in Case any one of us had been taken up, and to have sav'd my self, I was ready to hang all my Companions.

Wh.

Wh. 'Twas indeed a piece of Caution our Party has always observ'd, nor have they been afterwards a Jot the worse thought on for it.

Do. My Grandmother's Legacy was soon spent, and at last I was reduced to that Necessity, that I was forced to be a Corrector of a private Press in a Garret, for three Shillings a Week; and in this miserable Condition did I languish for near three Years; but at last Fortune vouchsafed to give me a favourable Smile, and it was just the Week after the King landed at *Torbay*. I had eat nothing all day, and had not a Farthing in my Pocket, but knew an Ale-house where I could have Credit for a black Pudding and a Pot of Ale; thither I stole about six at Night, and found sitting at the Kitchen-Fire, smoaking his Pipe, an *Essex* Gentleman, who was formerly us'd to haunt *Richard's* Coffee-House: He was Half Seas over, and I perceiv'd had been drinking the Prince of *Orange's* Health. With my familiar Confidence I presently accosted him, Mr. *Aletope*, said I, I am mighty glad of the Honour to meet you here. He knew me, but seeing me in such a shabby Dress, he received me somewhat coldly, upon which I drew him into a Corner of the Room and whisper'd to him that I was now in disguise; that for two Years I had been Abroad, in *Rome*, in *Germany*, and in *Holland*, to carry on the good Work; that I was just come from *Exeter* with Letters from our Friends in the *West*. I told him I was going back to morrow morning with Bills of Exchange for one hundred and fifty thousand Pound, and with Letters from five and forty

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Lords.

Lords. In short, I told him above an hundred impossible Stories and Lies, all which he listen'd to gravely, and swallow'd greedily; and when I had done, he began to think me a Person of some Importance. Mr *Double*, said he, will you do me the honour to take a Dish of Meat and a Glass of Wine at my Lodgings. I seem'd unwilling, and that I was to rise early; but at last I yielded to his Importunity, and thither I went. His Servant was out of the way, and no Wine was to be had: Come, said he, let us have a Game at Back-gammon till the Butler can be sent for; I knowing his Itch to play, and how unskilful he was at it, readily clos'd with the Motion, but told him I had been us'd to deep Play abroad, and would not touch the Dice unless he would play three up for twenty Guineas: This startled my Country Gentleman; but being warm with Wine, he cry'd, come 'tis a Match.

Wh. I hope you had false Dice about you, for I remember our Friends twenty Year ago never went without their Tackle, and made no scruple to cheat their dearest Acquaintance the young Whigs of their own Party.

Do. I was not unprovided: My Bubble was not drunk enough for me to bring in my false Dice, and I lost four Games running, but at last Supper and the Butler came to my Relief. While we were at Table, I entertain'd him with the Correspondence I held with all the Princes of *Europe*; I told him I had lain three whole Nights with the Duke of *Lorrain*; That I and the Elector of *Brandenburg* were sworn Brothers;

Brothers; That I had made the last Duke of Saxony drunk forty times; That I had given the Empress a Ball at my Lodgings in Vienna, where the Emperor himself danced a Minuet; told him I receiv'd Letters every Post from Pope Odescalchi. In short, I made my self in manner the only Contriver of the Revolution, the sole Manager of all Affairs abroad and at home, and that all Employments would be at my disposal: But between every Story I ply'd my *Effex* Calf with a Bumpef. When supper was ended, he told me he had a mind to some little Place of about a thousand Pound a Year, which he might execute by a Deputy, or that he hated Business, and begg'd my Interest to get it for him; with that I kiss'd him, and swore by G-d he should have it; after which he call'd for the Tables, and bad me win back my four Games if I could.

Wh. By that time I suppose he was so drunk that you could safely make use of your Tackle.

Do. Yes faith, the Bar Quatre Trays, the high and low Dice were all in in their Turns, and at last the Doctors themselves were made of. Not to be tedious, he lost two hundred Guineas, which he paid me immediately out of his Scrutore, but with five or six deep sighs. To cure this Melancholy, I swore to him, when Things were settled, he should be the first Man I would have in my Thoughts for an Employment; upon which we parted; I full of Hopes, and I full of Mony.

Wh. This was a lucky Adventure.

Do. It prov'd so, as you shall see in the sequel. With this Mony I new rigg'd my self

from Top to Bottom, and soon after I went, very well mounted, to meet the Prince at *Windsor*: There no Man was perter than my self; I gave out I was an old Whig that had been persecuted and turn'd out of Business for adhering to the Protestant Interest, and for refusing to take off the Test and Penal Laws; I saluted every Lord I met there as familiarly as if we had been bred up together; I took *Shrewsbury* by the Hand, and welcom'd home *Macklesfield* and *Mordant*; I valued my self, with a loud Voice, upon my Services and Sufferings: At every turn, I cry'd we have done thus and thus, and we must do so and so, or else we are lost; Such a one must be Secretary; We will have such a one in the Treasury. By this assuming, and by my arrogant Behaviour, I so recommended my self (especially to the Strangers that came over) that in two days no Body was more caress'd and taken notice of than honest *Tom Double*.

Wh. This was well wrought in so short a time.

Do. When we came to *St. James's*, I was always thrusting my self into the Presence, and was never two Yards from the Prince's Person. I was the more encourag'd to this, because I saw very many Scoundrils like my self do the same. One day I had the Impudence to offer to sit down to Dinner with his Highness; but a Gentleman who knew me better than the rest did, whisper'd me in the Ear, and said, You sawcy Rascal fall back into the Crowd and get yon gone, or I will take a time to have you cudgell'd and pump'd; upon which I withdrew somewhat daunted, but not a bit ashamed.

Wh. This Check would have spoilt me for ever for a Courtier.

Do. I gad it made no Impression at all upon me; I was at Court next day as brisk as any Body there; I bragg'd of my Interest in the City, and with the Party, I never had a less Sum in my Mouth than three or four hundred thousand Pound; I told 'em I could bring in five or six Friends of mine that should lend the Government that and more. And in the City I told 'em what Duke I had din'd with; what Lords were to sup with me; That I had been the day before three Hours with such a Minister shut up in his Closet: And by vapouring in this manner, and by giving my self these Airs of Power and Greatness, I made such a Figure, that my Lodgings were so crowded that he thought himself happy who could get a Whisper with me in a Corner of the Chamber; Some I us'd scurvily, and they cring'd lowest; to others I said gravely their Business could not be done; These doubled their Attendance and Gifts; Others I receiv'd with open Arms and told 'em they should be dispatch'd in six days; In short, I had Clyents of all kinds; Some of King *James's* Delinquents apply'd to me to get 'em Pardons: But I had vast Numbers of People came to me to find out Employments for 'em, none of which was contented with a less Place than of five or six hundred Pounds a Year. I remember among the rest, there was a dapper young Lawyer who came to me in a tatter'd Gown from *Westminster*, and stole twenty Guineas into my Hand, desiring that my Honour would be pleas'd to

make him a Judge; and that when he had the Place, I should have thirty more. I took his Mony, and undertook his Business. But what I got most by was finding out Crown-Lands for others to beg: I had a ragged Regiment of Projectors and of Officers, that had been discharged for Rogueries committed in the Exchequer, and in other Offices; these met every Night at an Ale-house near *Whitehal*: I gave 'em now and then five pound, and they discovered to me, as they call'd it, where the King had Mannors, Demesnes, or Fee-Farm Rents and where there were old Debts due to the Crown; These I handed to Favourites, Lords and great Men: They found Means to get Grants of 'em, and I had my Snack. By these and other Tricks, in about twelve Months time, I had pick'd up five thousand pound.

Wh. How did your Clyents fare in the mean while, whose Mony you had taken?

Do That ne'er troubled my Thoughts, some of 'em are starving at this Instant; several of 'em did get Places, and those I made believe it was by my Procurement, tho' in truth most of 'em had no other Recommendation but their notorious Roguery. Well, when I had got such a Sum in my Pocket, I took a House and set up my Coach: And when the Convention was dissolv'd, it came into my Head, that the best way to raise my Fortune, was to get myself chosen Parliament Man; for I was discerning enough to see what Card would turn up Trump. Down therefore I went into *Cornwal* in a good Equipage, and with store of Guineas in my Purse.

Wh.

Wh. But you did not succeed in that Undertaking.

Do. No, I was disappointed by an unlucky Chance. I had secur'd the Election, and brib'd the Majority of the Corporation, and was huzza'd into the Burrough: But, as the Devil would have it, one who had been my Fellow-prentice knew me; and as soon as he saw my Calash stop, he came bawling up, took me by the Hand, and cry'd, Honest *Tom Double* thou art welcome, who thought to see thee in *Cornwal*? My Electors star'd to see him so familiar with their Member, and began to shove him away; but he would not take it so, and growing Angry, bellow'd out, What a plague do you think I don't know *Tom Double*? Why he and I were Fellow-prentices with *Jack Last* the Shoemaker in *Fleet-Street*. I took upon my self to be mightily affronted, and fain would have out-fac'd the Man. He persisted in his Story, I to deny it; but Truth has something in it irresistible, he was believ'd, and I was thought an Impostor, and the Rabble began to hoot me.

Wh. What did you do then?

Do. I bore up as well as I could, and went to my Inn. But at Night the Mayor came and told me there was an Uproar in the Town, and a Plot to toss me in a Blanket next day, if I did not get away as fast as I could. I gave Credit to his Intelligence, and stole out of the Burrough next Morning by three a Clock.

Wh. To what did you betake your self when you came to Town?

E

Do.

Wh.

Do. I had thrust my self into a general Acquaintance, and for some time I drove a Trade of getting People to lend Money to the Government ; *Per Manus Double* was very well known in the Treasury, the Premio's I shar'd with the Lender, many more did the same, and by this we fleec'd the Publick bravely.

Wh. Those were gallant Times for such as had Industry.

Do. When *Ireland* was reduc'd, I sent for three Proving Fellows from *Dublin*, with Directions they should bring over with them an Accompt of all the best Irish Forfeitures; which when I had, I apply'd my self to such at Court as had Power and Interest enough to obtain Grants of the like Nature. The Courtiers had agreed to divide this Spoil among 'em, but I took care to come in for my Snack of the Booty: And indeed I deserv'd a good Reward, for I help'd 'em to Model and dress up all the Particulars, in which we impos'd upon the Government abominably: We represented Estates of three or four Thousand Pound a Year to be but little pedling Farms, which would hardly afford Potato's for an Irish Bog-trotter. But I must own I never undertook any thing in which I got so much, with so little Pains; for they who were then at the Helm had most of 'em some Work of their own to do, they had something to beg for themselves, and therefore they were afraid to look too strictly into the Pretensions of other Men: They never examin'd into the Merits of the Pretender, nor the Value of the Gift; all we said was taken for granted, we did what we pleas'd, and had what

what we ask'd for, and I can assure you these *Irish Grants* did yield me and some others an excellent Crop.

Wh. I see you have been in at all.

Do. So they must do who will thrive. All these Transactions had made me well known to the Treasury, and every Morning by eight I was whispering Projects in some of their Ears, which they by one a Clock the same day open'd to the House of Commons, as Schemes forsooth of their own forming: But I did not take this ill, I found my Accompt in it. Other Services I did; 'twas I put *Tom Neal* upon the Million-Lottery. *F—t O—w* had never thought of his Leather-Tax but for me. The Malt-Duty, the Window-Tax, and the Tax upon Births, Burials, and Marriages, were the Off-springs of my Brain. You had never had the Bank of *England* if I had not introduced *Michael Godfrey* to the Acquaintance of *Charles M——e*. Without me *S—— S——d* had never got his New *East-India* Company. Over a Bottle of Wine one Night I open'd to Sir *John Foch* the Capitation-Whimsey, and he got it next day handed into Parliament. And tho' a great Man pretends now to have devis'd the Exchequer Bills, they had never been dreamt on, if it had not been for me and poor *Mordecai Abbot*.

Wh. I always understood we Whigs had been the Divisers of the new Taxes and remote Funds, but did not know till now the share you have had in it.

Do. I have done my Part, and think I have reason to pretend to a great deal of Merit. For
what

what had become of our Party, if it had not been for these Projects? 'Tis true, we have run the Nation over Head and Ears in debt by our Fonds, and new Devices, but mark what a Dependance upon our Noble Friends, this way of raising Mony has occasion'd. Who is it sticks to 'em but those who are concern'd in Tallies and the new Stocks? The plain Country Gentleman, who has nothing to trust to but his Estate, is for having 'em call'd to an Account for robbing the Nation; but we, who through their Means, have so many Years got fifteen and twenty *per Cent* for our Mony, and who by their Help have had so many other ways of raising our Selves, Cry up their Innocence, and long to see 'em again at the Helm, that under their Countenance and Protection we may once more fleece the Kingdom. Take this for a Rule, if you see any Man very hot for 'em in the Country, he or his Relations are engag'd in the Annuities; and they whom you hear roaring so for 'em in the City, are such as have Stock-jobb'd Tallies at 30, or 40 *per Cent* Profit. For we have taken Care to insinuate to all those who have dealt with the Exchequer, that the Eighteen Millions *England* now owes will never be paid unless they are restor'd to the Ministry, and you must be sure to spread this about in the Country as you Travel.

Wh. But I doubt 'twill pass upon very few; for many are apt to say, if they had continued in their Posts a few Years longer, instead of paying former Debts, they had run us in Debt eighteen Millions more.

Do. I

Do. I am of that Opinion ; but that's not your Business, you are to Lye roundly and impudently for your Friends, and as for Believers you must leave that to Chance.

Wh. Well, I will push this as far as it can go. But pray finish your Narrative.

Do. The Master-Piece of my Dexterity remains behind. You know I was a Receiver of the Taxes towards the latter end of the Year, 1692.

Wh. I remember it very well, and we all wonder'd that a Man of your Interest should except of such a mean Employment.

Do. It did not prove so to me. As I order'd it, I made my Receiver's Place better than that of a Lord Treasurer of *England*.

Wh. This passes my Understanding.

Do. 'Twill be plain to you by and by. But the Design we had form'd was laid very deep, and there were better Heads concern'd in it than my own. There was a Club of us that us'd to meet thrice a Week on purpose to invent Lies that were to support our Friends and blacken our Enemies ; but we never parted without contriving something or other that might tend to our own private Advantage.

Wh. There are forty of the like Clubs now ; I am of one of 'em, but at present we meet every Night, because we have more Business upon our Hands than ever.

Do. I know it. In this Company we fell to discourse about the Coin, which was then very much defac'd by the Clippers. One Mr. *Trickster*, a Solicitor at the Treasury, blurted it out, That if the Clipping-Trade went on, a Receiver of the Taxes would be a brave Employment.

ment. The Notion struck me immediately, but I turn'd the Discourse, and we fell to talk of other Matters. But I hammer'd this Business in my Head two or three days, and saw a great Prospect of Gain. Upon which I got together five of the Cunningest Fellows in Town, and we sat in Consultation many Hours. At last we agreed to make what Interest we could, either by Friends or Money, to be Receivers.

Wh. I smell your Design now.

Do. We laid this Scheme. First to exclaim every where against those who then had the Receipt of the King's Revenue, and to roar out that they were *Tories* and *Jacobites* who kept the King's Money in their Hands on purpose to distress the Government; That honest and hearty Whigs would make the Land-Tax yield more by a Third part: By these Sayings and Aspersions, we hoped to turn out several upright and conscientious Persons, who we know would not concur with us in our Designs.

Wh. The Mine wrought as you could wish, for I remember you got them out and your Selves in.

Do. Afterwards we settled our Agents in Town, who were to allow us so much *per Cent.* according to the weight of the Bags we sent up, 20, 30, and 40 *per Cent.* My Wife, besides being an admirable Accomptant, was as dexterous a Clipper as any in *London*, and could earn her five Pound a day with her own Fingers, besides making and receiving all her Visits. 'Twould be endless to reckon up all the Advantages we made. When the Money was Recoinage, I my self paid into the Exchequer

quer several thousand Pounds, of which the hundred Pound Bags, one with another, weigh'd not above nine Pound, which ought to have weigh'd three and thirty, by which you may guess howmuch stuck in our Paws. What we five began was follow'd all round the Kingdom, and there were very few Offices which had not one or two such Rogues as we in it. And tho' we had blamed others for the same thing, and wrongfully, yet there was hardly one of us that did not keep always in his Hands at least twenty thousand Pound of the King's Mony, with which we bought up Tallies and Debentures, sometimes at 30 and 40 *per Cent* Discompt: All this while the Soldiers and poor Sea-men were starving, but that we did not value of a Pin. Now and then some of the Treasury would be resty, and complain of us; but 'twas answer'd, They are of our Party, very honest Fellows, and zealous Whigs, who do the Government a great deal of Service. And truly this Character we had assum'd was a Cloak to all our Knavery.

Wh. How long did this Game last?

Do. Long enough for me to get fifty thousand Pound.

Wh. But did you go off clear with this Sum?

Do. No, Pox take it, our Villanies grew so very rank, that at last the Parliament began to Smoke us, and there several of us were dad before the Committee, where if Matters had been push'd home, to *Tyburn* we must have gone, or at least to the Pillory.

Wh. How did you ward the Blow?

Do. By

Do. By acting a part quite new to me, which was being very Sincere. I went to some Persons, who I knew had great Power and Interest, and plainly told 'em what I had got, and offer'd if they would bring me off, that they should share Gains with me.

Wh. Did this work well?

Do. To Admiration. Some of these had been the very Men who found most fault with me and others, but they presently chang'd their Note and became our best Solicitors; they ran about every where crying up our Innocence, and throwing Dirt upon our Accusers. The Arguments that prevail'd most with our Party, which then you know was uppermost, were these; They said, what a Devil have we to do with this Inquisition? Does not one Inquiry beget another? Are we not all equally Guilty? What Office almost is clear? Have not all of us robb'd the King and Kingdom as much as lay in our Power? May not the detecting some Criminals prove a Means of laying open all the rest? Why should we not live and let live? If all that have wrong'd the Publick must be call'd to Accompt, what will become of the best of us? These Reasons, urg'd in proper time and to proper Persons, had such an Effect, that our Danger vanish'd by degrees, the Matter was let drop, and we heard no more of our Prosecution.

Wh. But I doubt this cost you Sauce.

Do. Yes in Troth I did not scape for less than twenty thousand Pound, for every one who could either do me Good or Hurt had a Pull at me:

Wh. How-

Wh. However you got off with thirty thousand Pound clear.

Do. That I did.

Wh. But after this, I suppose, you did not think fit to pretend to any Employment.

Do. This, nor ten times more Roguery, would not have barr'd me in those Days from getting a Place, but nothing fell worth my accepting; besides, while the late Ministers were in Power, I did my Business well enough, by doing now and then a private Job through their Favour and Assistance. And now I am at my Ease, I have my Country-House, where I keep my Whore as fine as an Empress: You know how I am lodg'd in Town, where I am serv'd all in Plate; I have my *French* Cook, and Wax-Candles; no Butchers Meat comes upon my Table; I drink nothing but *Hermitage*, *Champaigne*, and *Burgundy*; *Cahors* Wine has hardly admittance to my side-board; my very Footmen scorn *French* Claret: I keep my Coach and six, and out of my fine Chariot I loll and laugh to see gallant Fellows, Colonels and Admirals, trudging a-foot in the Dirt. Poor silly Rogues! their Honour forsooth led 'em to fight for *England* abroad, but I play'd a much wiser Game, by joining with those who in the meanwhile were plundering their Country at home.

Wh. You have given me a very succinct Account of your Self, from the time you crept out of your Garret, to the Prosperity in which you flourish at present.

Do. You have the History of my Life, but it may serve as a Looking-Glass in which most of the Modern Whigs may see their own Faces.

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In describing my self, I have drawn most of their Pictures, and there are few of 'em that do not resemble me in some of my Features. Look generally into their Originals, and you will find 'em full as mean as mine. Who was such a Great Man's Father? A scandalous Barrater. What was such a Lord not long before the Revolution? A little Jackanapes that People shunn'd because he could not pay his Club. Did they rise by Virtue or Merit? No more than my self. How did they behave themselves in their Offices? Just as I did; they got what they could, no matter how. Did I cheat the King and his People? So did they; with this difference only, I was a small Retailer, they dealt by Wholesale. 'Tis true some of 'em got the Start of me and have been in high Posts of Honour and Trust, but if I had not been baulk'd in *Cornwal*, if I could but have got into the House, with my Impudence and fluent way of Speaking, with my abandon'd Principles, with my Cringing and my Flattery, no Body knows how far in those Days I might have advanc'd my self.

Wh. Indeed you were qualify'd to have been very considerable among us Old Whigs.

Do. Prithee Friend *Whiglove*, leave off calling thy self an Old Whig, it will do thee hurt with the Party. We reckon those Men our worst of Enemies.

Wh. Why I thought, except your self, and some others who came over to us betimes, that we were all Old Whigs.

Do. You may as well call us Drommadaries. As for the Old Whigs in King *Charles's* time
ma-

many of 'em are dead, some of 'em are retir'd, being asham'd to see their Party play the Knave as soon as ever they got into Power. Many of those that remain still upon the Stage, think us the very Rogues we know our selves to be, they have quitted our Side, and Vote every day with *Seymour, Musgrave* and *Jack How*. What have we in us that resembles the Old Whigs? They hated Arbitrary Government, we have been all along for a Standing Army: They desir'd Triennial Parliaments, and that Tryals for Treason might be better regulated; and 'tis notorious that we oppos'd both those Bills. They were for calling Corrupt Ministers to an Accompt; we have ever countenanc'd and protected Corruption to the utmost of our Power. They were frugal for the Nation, and careful how they loaded the People with Taxes; we have squander'd away their Mony as if there could be no End of *England's* Treasure. The Old Whigs would have prevented the immoderate Growth of the *French* Empire, we Modern Whigs have made a Partition-Treaty, which, unless Providence save us, may end in making the King of *France* Universal Monarch.

Wh. I must confess we are very much departed from the Principles we profess'd twenty Years ago. But pray tell me of what sort of Persons does our Party consist at present, for we still call our selves Whigs?

Do. 'Tis not so easy as you imagin to describe the strange Medly of which we are now compos'd, but I shall do my best to let you in to the Secret. First, you must know there are some Men of true Worth and Honour that still

continue among us; why I can't guess, but those I fear we shall lose when they come plainly to discover our bad Designs, and how furiously we drive to bring the Kingdom into a Civil War. Nor have we lost all the Old Whigs; There are still Listed with us, Whig-Pickpockets, Whig-Gamesters, Whig-Murderers, Whig-Outlaws, Whig-Libertines, Whig-Atheists, such as in former Reigns have had some Note of Infamy publick or private fix'd upon 'em; all these stick close to our Side, nor do we apprehend that any one of 'em will forsake us, because they know Crimes of no Nature whatsoever are ill look'd upon among us, and that even hereafter, they may commit more, if they please, under the Shelter of our Wings.

Wh. But have we no more than what you have here reckon'd?

Do. O yes, or we shou'd be but weak. The Bulk of our Party consists of those who are of any Side where they can best make their Markets; such sort of Men naturally like the Whigs most, because ours was a negligent weak Administration. Every Body did what seem'd good in his own Eyes, we troubled no Man with calling him to an Accompt. The Accompts of the Army, Navy, Customs, and Excise, are not yet made up. There are upwards of four and Twenty Millions of the Peoples Money unaccompted for to this Day. Under our Ministry all the Officers that handled the King's Business or Revenue liv'd in Clover. Every little Scoundrel got an Estate. We suffer'd 'em to drink up the People's Blood till they were out of Breath, and till their Eyes

Eyes grew Red. In short, all Men cheated to what degree they pleas'd, which was wink'd at in hopes to make and to secure a Party. Therefore all the busy Proling Fellows both in Town and Country, who hope to advance themselves, wish to see our Noble Friends restor'd to their former Power. And all these sort of Men, while they have any hopes that way, will join with us to buoy them up, and to exclaim against the new Ministers. But if they find the Game lost, if they see the King resolv'd to correct Abuses, and to call them to a Reckoning who have so much wrong'd him and the Nation, and if they find the Parliament stick to their Point; if they see the Country-Gentlemen resolute to be no longer impos'd upon by Upstarts and Hairbrain'd Rulers of a State, like Rats they will all run from a falling House, they will disown the Name of Whigs, and send us and our Party to the Devil.

Wh. But if they start from us, shall we not be very weak?

Do. Weak do you call it, we shall be utterly undone, we shall be no longer able to hold up our Heads, and we must give up the Cudgels. These pretended Neuters, this flying Squadron are now our best Foundation. What I and several Old Knaves say, that have been all along in the Intrigue, passes for nothing. We are thought to speak in our own Cause, but these forsooth have never been in Business; they are call'd disinterested Persons, honest Whigs that love *England*. And tho' we know 'em to be as errant Rogues as our selves, and that they long to be playing the same Game we play'd, yet we extol 'em for the only good

Patriots: They are the Tools and Engines with which we work; they are the full-mouth'd Hounds that help to make up the Cry; they are our Organs, our Stentrophonical Tubes, our speaking Trumpets. 'Tis they who rail at the present Ministers; 'tis they who exclaim against the Proceedings of the House of Commons; and 'tis they who have endeavour'd to get Hands to Petitions for a Dissolution of the Parliament.

Wh. This Flying Squadron, as you call it, is of great Importance to our Designs; what Care is there taken to secure 'em to our Party?

Do. The Methods made use of by the Heads of us are these: We insinuate to 'em both in Town and Country, That new Ministers, if they think to establish themselves in these inquisitive Times, must resolve to come in upon the Foot of Honesty, Virtue and Frugality, for *England*. And who can hope to make any considerable Fortune, under such a set of Men? Will the Earl of R. and my Lord G. when they have Power enough to mend Things, suffer all the present Abuses in the Revenue? Will they sit still and see the Nation Robb'd and Plunder'd, when they have Interest enough to prevent it? They will recommend none to the King's Service but Men of Parts and Abilities. Which of you are so qualified? What Skill have any of you but how to buy and sell Tallies and Debentures, whereby you squeeze the Soldiers, poor Seamen, and those who have Dealings with the Government? If any of you chance to get into Place, will not they watch your Goings? Will not they compel you to make up your Accompts? They did all these Things

Things heretofore, when they had Power, and no doubt will tread in the same Steps. They were no Squanderers, they kept the Crown out of Debt, and were careful of the Publick Revenues. Take it upon our Words they are not Men for your purpose, they are not Ministers for your Turn. 'Tis therefore your Interest, and ought to be your Business, to Rail at 'em, to Bely 'em, and to do your utmost to blast their Reputation.

Wh. I see now the true Reason why our Party has of late so pelted those two Lords with Libels.

Do. They have been damn'd Rubs in our way all along, and I doubt we shall never succeed in our Designs of building up our Fortunes upon the Ruin of the Nation, till we get 'em remov'd.

Wh. But suppose that could be done, or that they of themselves should retire out of Dispair of being able to help their Country, would our Work be then compleat? Will not the Parliament be still a hindrance to us? Will not they rescue the Kingdom out of your Hands when you purpose to invade it? And will not the People rather incline to believe their Representatives, than your Stories and false Suggestions? Pray what do you insinuate to the flying Squadron in relation to the House of Commons?

Do. First, as I told you before, we bid 'em call in general for a Dissolution. For if we could obtain it, what by Bribery, what by Clamours, and what by the Lies we have dispers'd about *England*, and which we shall take care to renew, as we see occasion, we have some Hopes

to alter the Elections, and to get a Majority once more of our Side.

Wh. I doubt we shall hardly be able to Bully the Court into a Dissolution.

Do. Who knows if we make a great deal of Noise but that we may fright 'em to it. You can hardly imagin what an ill Opinion we have brought some People to have of Parliaments in general; to those whom we see gaping after Preferments (of which sort of Men the chief Strength of our Party consists at present, and they are the most busy and active among us) we say it was better with *England* when Parliaments were call'd but once in an Age, no Body can be at rest for 'em: Now a Man cannot get two or three hundred thousand Pounds in an Office, but he must be question'd by a House of Commons: 'Tis incredible how well this works with the flying Squadron, who would fain come into Business, and be suffer'd to play the Knave in quiet. To others we say, What the Devil have the Commons to do to accuse the Ministers? 'Tis assaulting the Throne. What made them inquire into the exorbitant Grants, may not the Prince dispose of his own? This Doctrin has its Weight and Effect with some old Tories of the last Courts, who upon valuable Considerations condescend now to herd with us. To others we preach that the Commons have exceeded their Bounds by imprisoning those who were not their own Members; and tho' we Whigs did ten times more of this in 1678, and 1679, and tho' it has been the known Practice of our Ancestors, yet we have the Impudence in Printed Pamphlets to assert, That the Commons do thereby as-

of

sume

same to themselves illegal and arbitrary Power. In short, we do all that we can to make Parliaments either contemptible, and odious, or dreadful, especially to those who would meddle in Business, and think to raise their Fortunes. But our Malice is chiefly levell'd against this and the last House of Commons. And be you sure Mr. *Whiglove* to take the Cue, and bid all your Friends do the like as you go through the several Counties. Curse 'em, Rail at 'em, Villify 'em (you may extol the Lords to the Skies for their late Proceedings, that will do well enough) but as for the Commons, such of 'em I mean as for these last three Years have oppos'd our Measures (of which you have a List) call 'em *Jacobites*, *French Pensioners* and *Traytors*, as often as you hear 'em nam'd.

Wh. But with what Face can I talk at this rate of Persons whom I know in my own Conscience to have done so many good Things for *England*? They disbanded a numerous standing Army which (except a few Prostitutes of our own Side) the whole Nation thought dangerous to our Liberties. They liberally supply'd the King from time to time, and paid off a great many old Debts, and yet they have eas'd the People of the Malt, and Leather Taxes, which were a grievous Burthen upon 'em. They have shown their Self-denial in excluding their own Members from being either in the Customs, or Excise, profitable Places. They have done what in them lay to inquire into and correct Abuses. That the Law might have the freer course, they have divested themselves of their own Priviledges, which were a Grievance complain'd of for above a hundred Years,

but could never be redress'd till now. In all the Course of their Proceedings they have given evident Marks of profound Duty and Respect to the King's sacred Person; and this very last Session they have settled the Succession to the Crown in a Protestant Line. By their Votes, and by the Engagements they have enter'd into to assist his Majesty, they have enabled him to be the sole Arbiter of War and Peace in *Europe*. Now after all this, it goes somewhat against my Heart to call these Men *Jacobites* and *Pensioners of France*.

Do. Friend, if you are troubled with these Qualms, and Fits of Remorse, you'll never do your self any good. I know as well as you, that never two Parliaments did better for the Kingdom, but we must take Care not to own it: And if you desire to be recommended to us by your Services, you must learn to give every thing a false Turn. Tho' such a numerous Standing Army threatned our Liberties, and tho' the Nation could not possibly bear its Expence, you must say the Disbanding expos'd us to an Invasion. If they talk of what Supplies have been granted, what Debts have been paid, and how hardly Taxes come; tell 'em, *England* is inexhaustible, and that a General Excise would pay off all the Deficiencies, and make us flow in Mony. As to their Self-denial: Tho' it be a fallacious Quibble, tell 'em of the Dog in the Manger. As to the giving up their Priviledges I have not an Answer ready for it, and I must pump hard to be able to detract from that Generosity. If you hear 'em talk of the Abuses they would have Corrected, justify every thing, even *Kidd's* Piracy, and

and *Whitacre's* Bill of twenty five thousand Pound for Law-Charges. As to their Duty to the King, tho' the thing proves it self from their Addresses, and from the Supplies they have granted, however do you deny it flatly, be sure to Lie audaciously upon that Subject, and say the Country-Party are the most saucy Fellows in Nature; give out that they Talk of their Prince as irreverently in the House, as we Whigs have done in Taverns ever since my Lord S——rs lost the Seals. As to the Bill for settling the Succession, you must say it signifies nothing, unless it had been accompany'd with a good round Oath of Abjuration, which might have created some fresh Divisions in the Kingdom; besides, object in particular to all the Limitations. As to their last Address (tho' the King himself, who is the best Judge, was highly satisfy'd with it) do you say it came too late. And tho' Nine Months ago we had neither Alliances form'd, nor Fleet ready, do you affirm it superciliously and confidently, that War ought then to have been proclaim'd.

Wh. I shall follow your Dictates religiously, and say what you will have me; but I would gladly know the true Reason why you, Mr. *Scrape*, Mr. *Getall*, Mr. *Rant*, and Mr. *Highflown*, and indeed almost all our Party, are so exceeding angry with the two last Parliaments.

Do. They attack'd us; they struck at our *Diana*, our Gain, which made us all run into a Tumult. They stopt us in the Progress we were making to be the richest Set of Men that ever meddled with a Kingdom's Business: And who bid them interrupt us? Does not Whigish Liberty and Property consist in a Right to

Rob

Rob the King and Government? Have we not in a manner ten Years Prescription for it? If they would have let us gone off quietly with our Great Places, with our Exorbitant Grants, with our Extortions, with our illegal Privy Seals, and with all the other Spoils we have made upon the Publick, we should have been contented, we would have permitted 'em to have sav'd *England*, if 'twas possible, after the Wounds we had given her in her Entrails. However we would have given 'em no Opposition, we should have been satisfy'd to have lain still a while, expecting better times, with Safety and Riches of our Side. But now we will find 'em Work, and since they have laid us open, we must study Revenge; we must endeavour by popular Clamours, private Whispers, and open Lies, to expose them to the Fury, or else they will, by due course of Law, bring us to the Justice of the Nation.

Wh. But suppose by our Noise and Stories we cannot procure a Dissolution.

Do. Our Game then must be to use our best Endeavours to make the People out of Love with the very Constitution of Parliaments. We have already laid the Ground-works of it in the Pamphlet call'd, *Jura Populi Anglicani*, where our dear Friend says, [Pref. p. 5.] *That the Commons are not the whole People of England's Representatives.* 'Tis true, that Notion is not his own, for he stole it from Roger L'Estrange; you may find it in his Observators, and in twenty other places of his Writings; but no matter for that, it makes for us now, and is well urg'd. *Sheridan* and all his Papists, in the Bitterness of their Gaul, when they had been

been question'd for the Popish-Plot, did not express half so much Venome to Parliaments as this Author has done. 'Tis a Gallant Fellow, God bless him, whoever he be, he deserves that our Party should set up his Statue in Gold; for my part, I should be glad to contribute towards it. He has rak'd up whatever was said or written by the Tories and Papists in the latter end of King *Charles's* Reign, when Sir *William Williams* was so severely prosecuted by the Court for doing his Duty. He has represented the House of Commons to be as Arbitrary as a Turkish Divan. He has insulted their Authority in general, and has affronted in particular all the most considerable Members: In short, he has laid the Axe to the very Root of the *English* Constitution.

Wh. What's design'd by all this?

Do. By this, and other Pamphlets of the like Nature, which we shall take care to publish every Week, we hope to work the People of *England* to the same frantick Temper that possess'd the *Danes* in the Year 1660. at which time they came and desir'd an utter Dissolution of their Government, that the Use of Parliaments might be quite laid aside, and that their King would govern by his own Will, and with a Standing-Army.

Wh. But could this be compass'd, Would it make for us?

Do. Believe me, Mr. *Whiglove*, the Heads and Leaders of our Party can never be safe till Parliaments are utterly abolish'd. Nothing but Force and a total Subversion of the Laws can protect their Crimes. Their Insolence to the last House of Commons was so notorious, that
'twill

'twill be dangerous for 'em to look any other in the Face. We can never be able to pack a Parliament, nor to find five hundred Gentlemen in the whole Kingdom that will sit still and see the Authority of a House of Commons trampled upon by a few Upstarts, and a Mock made of Impeachments, their most sacred and ancient Right. Besides, let us do what we can, a day of Reckoning will come, and one time or another we shall be made to disgorge some of the many Millions of which we have Robb'd the Nation. Therefore upon the whole Matter, 'tis the Interest of our Party to lay aside Parliaments, and to govern by a Standing-Army, as they do in *Denmark*.

Wh. I doubt you will hardly be able to make the People of *England* out of Love with Parliaments. Besides, you know the King in the whole Course of his Reign has shown himself a most Religious Observer of the Laws, and an Enemy to all unjust or desperate Councils.

Do. If we cannot hector the Court into a Dissolution, if we cannot render Parliaments odious, nor get an Army, we must betake us to our last Refuge, which is to throw ourselves into the Arms of *France*. For come *France*, come Pope, come Devil, we are resolv'd not to quit our Hold, nor to abandon the sweet Hopes we had once entertain'd. The Power we aim at shall not be wrested from us. Dominion is our Idol, and ha't we will, by Hook or by Crook. We know the way to the *Louvre*. Our Ancestors of *Scotland* (for we Whigs are deriv'd from thence) when they design'd to Rebel in 1639. apply'd for the *French* King's Protection. *Cromwel*, our Pa-
tron

tron-Saint, became an absolute Pensioner to France in the Year 1655. Nor is it probable our Noble Friends were such Fools as to have let the *French* King get so good a Bargain as he had by the Partition-Treaty, without coming down a good Sum of Mony: If the Truth were known, their Baggs weigh'd full as heavy as *Portacarrero's*. Indeed they deserved more, they laid the first Stone of this dangerous Building, and they did his Most Christian Majesty better Service than the *Spanish* Cardinal. Rather than not Lord it as we have hitherto done, and rather than not go away with the Estates and Wealth we have gotten, we are ready to do any Thing, and to submit to any Terms. Nor are we Whigs such irreconcilable Enemies to the late King as some imagin; Do you think we care who Rules, so we can have the Places? Do you believe we can't take *French* Gold? Why do you think we have made such a Noise about *French* Mony being distributed among the Members? We know 'tis all an Invention of our own, and a Lye from Top to Bottom, but we have two Ends in it: First, we asperse known good Patriots. Then we give the *French* Ministers to understand by this Talk, that Mony would not be thrown away in *England*. And is it not more likely they will come to us who have been all along such open Prostitutes? When the Lady in the Play talk'd to the Gentleman of his Whoring and Beastliness, Was it not to put him in mind of lying with her?

Wh. I am of your Opinion, that if it should be thought necessary, it would not be very difficult for our Party to make up with the *French*,
and

and at *St. Germain's*; for I remember in these two last Parliaments, all the Papists of the Kingdom were for us Whigs, and help'd our Friends every where in their Elections, particularly last Year they bestirr'd themselves notably to oppose *Jack How* in *Glocestershire*.

Do. They did so, and it was by Direction from above.

Wh. I have receiv'd great Satisfaction from your Discourse, and you have enlighten'd my Understanding in very many Things, of which I was ignorant before, for which I thank you.

Do. I have but done my Duty. My Business ever since the Parliament was up has been to instruct such as the Heads of our Party have sent all over *England* to scatter Libels, to disperse News, to utter their Stories, and to villify the House of Commons. We have Emissaries likewise in *Holland*, who are doing the same thing in *Amsterdam*, *Rotterdam*, and the *Hague*; and to tell you the Truth, we have a Knot of brave impudent Fellows posted there, who, as my Letters tell me, have made some of the poor *Dutch* believe, that this Parliament will sell *England* to *France* by Inch of Candle. Nor are we out of Hopes of getting from the Seven Provinces such Addresses as came lately out of *Hampshire*, *Buckinghamshire*, and *Yorkshire*.

Wh. What, the *Dutch* to Address about our Parliament! That would be strange indeed.

Do. Look you, I am afraid the States are more prudent than to interpose in Affairs of that Nature. Besides, they have all the Reason in the World to applaud the Proceedings of the last Sessions, but it may not be amiss to
in-

insinuate that some such thing is upon the Anvil, it keeps up the Hearts of our Party.

Wh. You were mentioning *Whitaker* just now, he that was Solicitor to the Admiralty; I protest I know not what to say when I come into the Country about that, and some other Matters. There was one *Robin Sayer*, an honest Gentleman of my Acquaintance, that us'd to be at *Garraway's* and *Tom's* Coffee-house, who had a Knack of finding out some Excuse or other for every thing that was done amiss: We call'd him Excuse-Master-General to the Party. I wish he were alive now to find out some Excuse for this Bill of *Whitaker's*, I believe 'twould puzzle him. I have the Copy of his Accompt, as 'twas deliver'd to the Committee by Sir *Richard Haddock*, the 27th of *May* last, Examin'd by *H. Johnson*.

Do. Read it.

Wh. An Abstract of Mr. Edward Whitaker's Disbursements for Law Charges, from 22d of Feb. 1694, to the 31st of Decem. 1699.

	<i>l.</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
F EEES to Councillors and Doctors of the Civil Law	4876	0	4
Charges at Law Offices	3745	5	10
Expences in Summoning and Entertain- ing Witnesses, serving them with Sub- poena's, and finding Offenders	2995	14	11
Rewards to Councillors Clerks, Door- keepers, &c.	102	9	1
Other Expences, the particulars where- of are not nam'd	1513	14	2
His own Fees for Attendance &c.	1989	2	11
Drawing and Copying Indictments, Ar- ticles, Instructions, Depositions, In- formations, Breviates, Cases, &c.	3740	7	3
Carry over,	18962	14	6
			<i>Horse</i>

Brought over,	18962	14	6
Horse-hire, Coach-hire, and other Expences on Travelling	566	3	9
Reward for { his own at 20s. per diem Travelling { his Mans at 10s. per diem	528	8	6
Marshal and Prison Charges	1611	7	2
Discompt of Exchequer Bills and Tallies	455	13	6
Ditto Bank 400 l. at 17½ per Cent.	30	0	0
Charges of the Admiralty Sessions, &c.	42	2	0
Paid to John King for his Share of the Money recover'd from Lovelace	49	15	0
Reward paid one Jenkins an Evidence, said to be by Order from the Admiralty	34	9	6
Paid for Interest of 220 l. borrow'd to carry on the Service	18	5	0
Ditto 1800 l. respited to be Paid in Course from 5th Nov. 98. to 5th Aug. 97. at 6 per Cent.	81	0	0
Paid for Loss by 129 Malt Tickets receiv'd by him on Payment of Arrears for 1829 l. 14 s. 0 d.	576	0	0
Paid to Capt. Tho. Urry by Order for his Charges being Wounded and Prosecuted for Pressing Men	91	6	0
For passing the Admiralties Commission and Privy Seal for admitting Collonel Wharton	89	17	10
Paid to the Treasurer of the Navy by Order for Redemption of the King's Fisher Ketch	50	0	0
For Judges and Juries Dinners at the Admiralty Sessions, &c.	90	3	4
To Money recover'd of Gowen and others (Admiralty Officers) as Costs and Dammages in a Suit brought by Harvey and others in Suffolk	68	0	0
	23345	6	1
Besides from an Abstract deliver'd to the Committee, but not yet pass'd the Navy Office, it appears that the said Mr. Whitaker charges the King with a further Sum of about	2199	3	7
Total	25544	9	8
			Do.

Do. This is a swinging Accompt.

Wh. 'Tis so, especially when you hear all, for I am credibly inform'd that the late Attorney-General, and present Solicitor-General, and all the eminent Council, protest they never receiv'd Fees from him, any thing near the Sum he mentions: They say the same at *Doctors Commons*. During his whole time there were never three Convictions of any Consequence: He could give no Instance before the Committee of any one Service he had perform'd for the Expence of so much Mony. On the contrary he let *Bolton* escape, who could have made important Discoveries about *Kidd's* Matter. 'Twas likewise prov'd, That Mr. *Wilshaw* one of the Commissioners of his Majesty's Navy, had discover'd a Gang of Thieves in the King's Yard at *Portsmouth*, who upon Examination confess'd the Fact. These Informations were sent to the Navy-Board, who appointed *W——* to Prosecute the Criminals. But instead of Prosecuting the real Offenders, several of 'em were made Witnesses, and all the rest escap'd without being brought to Tryal; and the Prosecution was turn'd upon the said Mr. *Wilshaw* and several of the Officers of the Yard (by whose Care these Thefts were discover'd) who were tryed at the *King's Bench* Bar, after about 2 Years dependance, and by a special Jury of *Hampshire* Gentlemen acquitted. And the Court blaming very much the Prosecution, order'd a *Nol. Prof.* to stop further Proceedings, &c. It was further prov'd, That *W——* did this of his own Head, without any Order from the Admiralty; and that this Prosecution of innocent Persons, and his

own Officers, stood the King in 1001 *l.* 11 *s.* 5 *d.* Besides, every Article of his Bill is liable to Objection. The *Item* for Summoning and Entertaining Witnesses 2995 *l.* is scandalous. That of 3745 *l.* Charges at Law-Offices, is ridiculously extravagant. His *Item* of 3740 *l.* for Drawing and Copying Indictments, &c. is such a one as the like was never heard of. What does he mean by 1989 *l.* for his own Fees for Attendance, when he had a Salary? And how could he have the Impudence besides all this, to put in his Accompt 1094 *l.* for his own and Man's Horse-hire, Coach hire and Travelling-Charges?

Do Well, what do People say of all this?

Wh. They say, some principal Officer must have gone Snacks with him; They say, he deserves the Pillory for such a notorious Imposition and Cheat upon the Government; They report he was bred an Upholsterer, that for some private Merit he had, which lies still in the Dark, this Employment was purposely Coin'd for him; They say, if such an infamous Varlet was suffer'd to Rob the Publick at this Rate, what have the Great Ones done? And that such exorbitant Allowances could never have been made him, but in order to countenance Thefts of a higher Nature.

Do. I must confess he is an egregious Knave, but we must not let him sink; if he should be run down, who knows how far it may be carry'd? There are other Accompts relating to the Admiralty ten times more unjustifiable than that of *W——r's*. As to your Behaviour in this Matter, your best Course will be down-right

right to deny the Fact; for tho' all this appears upon the Journals, *Paul Joddrel* will not be in the Country to disprove you. And when you hear this poor Man, or any other of our Friends, censur'd for Accompts or Actions of the like kind, excuse 'em as well as you can; and when you cannot answer what's objected, as indeed 'tis impossible, do you say, May be they have cheated the King, what then? they are honest to the Cause, zealous hearty Whigs, and bitter Enemies to *France*.

Wh. I shall be plaguily put to it to give any tollerable Reason why such Pains was taken to make the Bill of Accompts miscarry. Under the Rose you know our Party did it, and it gives a good Handle to our Enemies to say we durst not stand the Test of such a Bill. They say, why not a Bill to examin and state the Accompts when there are Four and twenty Millions unaccompted for, and when such a variety of Instances are given of Male-Administration in almost every part of the Publick Revenue? They cry, Are your Accompts such you are afraid to have 'em look'd into? Besides, the poor Soldiers and Seamen (who are starving for their Arrears, and whose Wants compel 'em to sell their Debentures for 45 *l. per Cent.*) clamour and say, That we are the Cause they are put back a whole Year from being satisfied out of the Irish Forfeitures. And you can hardly imagin what a Reflection this brings upon the Whigs.

Do. If you knew the whole Secret you would not so much wonder why we got that Bill thrown out. As for the Soldiers and Seamen, we Whigs care not a Pin if they starv'd and

rotted. They are brave Fellows and love their Country, and will never concur in any of our Designs, therefore we are for laying all the Hardships we can upon 'em. You may hear 'em every Night at *Locketts* and the *Thatch'd House*, applauding the House of Commons, crying up *Musgrave*, and saying *Jack How* is one of their best Friends. They are for the Church, the King and the Laws, and say our Party cares for neither, and that we were a Band of Thieves got together, who minded nothing but getting Booty for our Selves. We were for a Bill of Accompts if we could have got a Set of Commissioners whom we could have Brib'd or Aw'd, or over whom we might have had any sort of Influence. But the Commons choose Fellows that would not have spar'd their own Fathers if they had found 'em Criminal. And tho' we have endeavour'd to ridicule their Offering to serve without Salaries, yet at bottom I must own it was a virtuous Offer. For why might not Gentlemen, most of which had serv'd their Country so many Years at their own Expende, continue their Labours one Year longer without Reward? And however we may think to blast it, 'twill in all times be thought an Honourable and Praise-worthy Tender of their Service, and would have given greater Weight and Authority to their whole Proceedings.

Wh. But what Excuse shall I make in the Country for throwing out the Bill?

Do. When you are among Friends, and those whom you dare trust, you may own the down-right Truth, which is, That if the Bill had pass'd, most of the principal Whigs had been

been utterly ruin'd; That such gross Cheats, Extortions, Frauds, Bribery, and Corruption, would have been discover'd and laid open, as must have expos'd our Party to the universal Contempt and Hatred of the Nation; That such a Storm would have fallen upon some of our chief Leaders and Patrons as would have torn 'em to pieces, some of which must have refunded two hundred thousand Pound, some a hundred thousand Pound, others Sixty, Forty, and twenty thousand Pound a Man, of which they have robb'd the King and Kingdom. In short, you must frankly own 'twas of the last Importance to get the Bill thrown out; That our very Being depended upon it; That our Party can stand and out-face any thing but a just and strict Inquiry into their Accompts, which is so tender a Part that if possible it must not be touch'd by the gentlest Hands, even of Or——d's and Ran——gh's own choosing. But this you are to utter only to confiding Persons, whom you know to be deeply engag'd with us. To vulgar Puts you may give any Reasons that come into your Head, how false, it matters not. Say 'twas only a Plot of the Papists against poor *Whitaker*. Call it a Spanish Inquisition, and cry what! was that a time to look into Accompts, when we should have been drawing our Swords against *France*? If any Man answers, Can there be a more seasonable time of saving Mony, than when we are going to engage in an Expensive War? Reply to him, Sir, you are doing the King of *France*'s Business; 'tis his Interest you should save every Shilling, that he may find it in your Pockets when he comes over to conquer the Nation.

Wh. I am told Mr. *Sleasy* went upon this very Topick in *Northamptonshire*, when he was talking upon the same Subject. Pray when did you hear from him?

Do. Last Post.

Wh. How does he say Things go in that Country?

Do. As well as we could wish; he writes me word Mr. *P*—— *S*'s having rais'd an Estate of 3000*l.* a Year out of 600*l.* a Year, and all in less than nine Years, and out of the Publick, has made 'em run stark mad; That there is not a Free-holder there who does not imagin he shall have the fingring of the Mony which is to arise from the Sale of eight hundred Prize Ships; They all hope to be Commissioners of the Prize-Office; and they cry, Hang it, the worst come to the worst, 'tis but lying a few Months in the Tower, and we may go away with forty or fifty thousand Pound in our Pocket. He writes, That 'tis incredible how this works in their addle Heads; That this Gentleman's having eluded the Justice of the Nation as he did last Sessions, has mightily increas'd our Party in *Northamptonshire*, where they rail at the House of Commons ding dong, and are agog to have the late Ministry restor'd, under which such Fortunes could be made out of the Publick, and with Impunity.

Wh. I remember Mr. *Cockbrain* and Mr. *Slander* were sent into *Glocestershire* two Months ago; you Correspond with 'em. Have they been able to prevail any thing against Mr. *How*?

Do. Not an Inch, they might as well have staid at Home, and so I told our Noble Friends.

That

That Gentleman's disinterested way of Acting in Parliament for so many Years, his firm Zeal to his Country, for whose Sake he has resisted such Temptations, the good Nature he expresses to his Friends, the Spirit with which he bears up to his Enemies, his flowing Wit, his admirable Understanding, adorn'd with such a Scope of Eloquence, his Humanity, Compassion, Candor, Probity, and all his other Virtues and Perfections, have created him such an Interest, not only there, but in the whole Kingdom, that 'tis quite impossible by all our Industry and Malice to undermine or blast it.

Wh. I hope you have better News out of the West.

Do. No in troth, all goes bad there too; Mr. *Birdhead*, Mr. *Tool*, and Mr. *Stalkinghorse* have been round *Dorsetshire*, *Somersetshire*, *Devonshire*, and *Cornwal*, and have been able to make few or no Converts. They write that Sir *Edward Seymour* is more cried up in those Parts than ever; That the Country Gentlemen say he has even surpass'd himself these three last Sessions of Parliament; They say there never was a House of Commons, in which he would not have shin'd, and of which he would not have been an Ornament, with his piercing Sense, and superior Understanding; They acknowledge all *England* is indebted to him for his Perseverance and Courage in detecting the Conspiracy that was form'd against our Liberties; That in those Countries, if there should be a Dissolution, our Party will rather lose, than get Ground.

Wh. Mr. *Selfish* and Mr. *Project*, write me much to the same purpose out of the North.

They have been in *Westmoreland*, endeavouring to Caluminate Sir *Christopher Musgrave*, and they had like to have had the Mob upon their Backs. Their Lies and Inventions would not pass upon the rugged Free-holders. They think their County fortunate to have produced so great a Man, and wish him many Years of Life and Health, that he may long remain one of the Pillars of his Country. They say, and indeed all good Men in *England* say the same, That the Course of all his Actions has been Uniform; That he is the true Image of old *English* Worth and Honour; That no ill Success could ever make him lose his Courage, nor Prosperity bring him to quit his Moderation; That in a Calm or in a Storm, with the Wind, or against it, he has always been a safe Pilot; and that he has ever steer'd with solid Judgment, Gravity and Wisdom.

Do. But have our Emissaries been able to raise no Dust by whispering about that somebody has touch'd *French* Money?

Wh. No, for Mr. *Selfish* writes he endeavoured to impose that Story upon the Northern Gentlemen, but that they call'd him impudent Lyar, and told him he might with as much likelihood affirm *Caro* took Bribes to betray the *Roman* Common-wealth.

Do. Well, tho' we have had no better Success in some Places, yet we have procured three Addresses to keep the *Kentish* Gentlemen in Countenance, and I hear of one or two more coming up.

Wh. Alas! What's that to the whole Kingdom? At the rising of the Parliament we were made believe every County and Burrough in the

the Nation would Petition for a Dissolution, and to have the late Ministry restored, and for God knows what besides, and yet we have been able to do no more than what you see with all our Aspersions, with all our hattering about, and with all our Libels. I remember in King *Charles's* Time, Petitions came thick and three-fold, tho' the King discountenanced that Proceeding to the utmost, and tho' the Ministry oppos'd it Might and Main. We are suffer'd to go on as we please, no Body brow-beats us, the Ministers give us no Opposition, and yet you see how little Progress we have made. I protest this puzzles me so I know not what to think or say.

Do. I will unravel this Mystery to you. Most of the old Whigs who were at the Head of Petitioning in King *Charles's* Reign, were without any Blemish upon their Reputations; They were not suspected of any By-ends and Designs of their own; They were thought to Act upon a publick Spirit, and for their Countries Good. This made 'em have so many Followers, and gave 'em such an Interest and Credit with the People, that they could lead 'em which way they pleas'd. But our Case is quite different, our Heads, our Leaders, our Great Men, who at present promote these Petitions, are full of Blots and Stains, and every thing they offer at falls under a just Suspicion. Would they have a new Parliament? The Reason's evident, they were question'd by the last House of Commons. They desire an immediate War; yes, because they are not safe from Inquiries in a Time of Peace. They are afraid of the *French*; How can that be, when they expos'd to 'em the Liberties of *Europe* by their Treaty of Partition?

So

So that our Friends cannot be able to lead a considerable Body in any thing they set afoot; for being Guilty of so many Crimes, and obnoxious to so much Censure of all kinds, they are thought, in whatever they do, to fight their own, and not the Peoples Battles. And what I have here open'd to you, is, I doubt, the true Reason that we have hitherto procured no more Addresses.

Wh. But if this be the Case, if we can raise no Ferment, if we can make no Disturbance and if the King shall think fit in Matters of War, Peace, and in other high Points of State, rather to consult his Parliament, than be advis'd by the Grand Juries of *Kent, Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, and Yorkshire*, What will become of our Party? Shall we not sink? Shall we not be Dispirited, and have we not a lost Game to play?

Do. Notwithstanding what I have said, our Case is far from being desperate. Do you your own Work in the Country, disperse your Lies, scatter your Libels, invent and cast fresh Aspersions upon all the considerable Men of the other side, and leave the rest to Providence: Many things may happen to relieve us, some great Calamity may befall the Nation; you shall see us lift up our Heads once more upon any fatal and publick Disaster, for Mischiefs of any kind make for us, we fish best in troubled Waters; National Afflictions fright the People, and turn their Brains; and at such a time we can work best upon 'em, and they are then fittest to receive our Stories and false Impressions. How do you know but that Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy* and his *Germans* may be defeated in *Italy*? *Wh.*

Wh. Would a Blow there help us?

Do. Can you be so dull not to see how much it would turn to our Advantage? Will it not furnish us with ample matter of railing at the present Ministry? For tho' our Party by their Theft and Rapine have so imbezzel'd the King's Revenue, tho' by not protecting Trade, and by our wrong Management of the last War, we have exhausted the Nation of a great part of its Coin, tho' by our Negligence and Profusion we have plung'd the State into an immense Debt, and tho' while we had the Administration, we did in general so disorder Affairs, that in this Juncture *England* could not presently exert it self as it ought to have done, and cannot without infinite new, and almost intollerable Taxes carry on such a War as is requisite to preserve *Europe* from the *French* Power: And tho' the House of *Austria* may justly lay at the Doors of our Party the danger they are in to lose their Rights to the *Spanish* Succession, yet we will throw off all the Blame from our selves, and cast it upon others: And if the Emperor should have that ill Success which all the cunning Whigs wish him, we will cry out, The other Side has sold *Europe* to *France*; Why was not there a Diversion made in *Flanders* with an Army of fourscore thousand *English*? Why did we not also land twenty thousand Men in *Portugal*? Why was not our Fleet in the *Mediterranean* three Months ago? If we had gone and threaten'd to bombard *Lisbon*, the *Portuguese* had never enter'd into an Alliance with *France* and *Spain*. Why had we not likewise forty Sail of good Ships in *America* which might have seiz'd the *Spanish* and *French* *West-Indies*? These and twenty things more we shall have

have ready to say, in case the *Germans* are soundly press'd in *Italy*.

Wh. Will it not be objected to you, That 'twas impossible to do all this? And that, keeping a sufficient Guard at Home, Ten Shillings in the Pound upon Land, the Malt-Duty, and several other Taxes, had not sufficed to fit out such a Strength as you talk of.

Do. No Matter for that. Let Prince *Eugene* be but compell'd to retire, and you shall see what use we will make of it. When they are struck with any sudden Fright, 'tis not to be conceiv'd what a Rumble Lies and Flams will make in the Heads of the Vulgar.

Wh. But all this will be out of Doors, for 'tis said his Imperial Majesty's Arms prosper.

Do. Yes, Pox on't, so they do to our great Sorrow. And I saw Dr. *D'Avenant* and some of that Gang, who are still in Town, very uppish t'other day at *Garraways* upon this News.

Wh. How does this agree with what we have order'd our Hackny Scriblers to Publish, and with the Story which you and the Party have directed me and others to spread about concerning Count *Tallard* and the Doctor?

Do. Oh you mean the seven thousand *Louis D'ors* won at *Picquette*, and the swinging Pension he receives from *France*.

Wh. But don't we hurt the Cause, by uttering these Notorious Falshoods? I was check'd very sharply not long ago by one of our own Side, a Man of known Truth and Candor, for dispersing such a groundless and malicious Slander. The Gentleman said, if he be brib'd he deserves his Bribes but very ill, for in all his Writings, in his last especially, *Upon the Balance*

lance of Power, he has declar'd himself no Friend to French Councils. The Scope of his whole Book is for an immediate War, and his private Conversation always concludes that way. Another in the same Company told me, That to his Knowledge the Doctor was then retiring to Chambers in *Grey's Inn*, to engage afresh in the House of *Austria's* Quarrel, with Intentions of trying once more to give his Country what Warning he can by his Pen, of their impending Dangers from the Growth of *France*.

Do. I wish the Beams of the Room would fall and beat out his working Brains; his indefatigable Industry has done us a World of Hurt. We must throw what Dirt we can upon him. If we can prevail to have him Ill thought on, 'twill make his Writings have the less weight. Besides, I hear he declares he will never give us over; he says we are Enemies to *England*, and that he will wage Eternal War with us. He is Stout and Surly, neither to be frightned nor allured. He Brib'd! alas we know better, but we were to blast him if we could. He a Friend to *France*! no, no, that's not his Crime; 'tis his Book *Of Grants and Resumptions*, and his having for so many Years made it his Business to expose our corrupt Administration that we stomach so much. But perhaps we had done more prudently not to have rais'd these foolish Lies, for Men of his Resolution, and so able to take their own Revenge, should not be too far provok'd.

Wh. I had best then say no more of that Matter.

Do. No, no, You must now persist in it It

It often becomes necessary to support what had been better let alone at First ; besides you know the old Maxim of our Party, *Throw Dirt enough, some of it will Stick.* And whenever you see a Man of the Side that opposes us, Eminent either for his Industry, natural or acquir'd Parts, or that you see valued for steddiness in Behaviour in Parliament, or for his constant Integrity to his Country ; nay, tho' he be esteem'd for his Impartiality and Moderation, do you be sure to throw all the Aspersions you can upon him.

Wh. How am I to carry my self in relation to the Church.

Do. I dont see why you should not still continue your wonted Practice of Ridiculing the Church and all Reveal'd Religion, the Heads of our Party do it, nor have the great Ones as yet given out any Orders to the contrary. But we have been lately very much oblig'd to some of my L——ds the B——ps, here is a List of Twelve of 'em who help'd us mightily last Sessions, without them we had been thrown upon our Backs. You see they join'd with us, who always have, and ever shall hate their Hierarchy, against the very Persons that so long have Fought their Battle. Of these truly I think you ough to Speak as well as a Whig can bring himself to Speak of any Church-Man.

Wh. I shall act this Part very awkwardly, and shall never be able to mention that Order with any Decency which my Tongue has been us'd to Explode for so many Years.

Do. Revile the Order as much as you please, but let me beg you Seak well of our Friends the Reverend P——tes.

Wh.

Wh. Have you any other Commands for me?

Do. In general detract from, and asperse all the Men of Quality of whom there is any appearance that either their high Birth, or their great Fortunes, or their Abilities in Matters of Government should recommend 'em to the future Administration of Affairs. At present particularly Spit your Venom against the D— of S—, the D— of O—nd, the M— of N—y, the E— of Marl—ough, the E— of Pet—ough, and the E— of N—m. Read over the Pamphlets lately Publish'd, which will instruct you what to say.

Wh. I have 'em all by Heart, and I take a great Parcel of 'em with me to disperse as I go along.

Do. Be sure to carry Store of the Queries: Have we not there maul'd the Sp—r bravery? He's paid off too in the *Jura Populi*, and we purpose to Pelt him in all the Libels that come out.

Wh. I doubt you'l be able to perswade but few, even of our own Party, to think that this Gentleman would betray his Country. Has he not a large Stake in it? And are not his Parts so Eminent as may lead him to Honour and Preferment, not the By-Road, but in the Path of Honesty and Virtue? What Interest can he have to wrong a People that has given such high Proofs of their Value for him? Why should he betray a Constitution which few in the Realm have study'd so much, or understand so well? Why should he desperately snatch at Wealth and Greatness, which would naturally fall upon him without Envy, and with no Danger?

Do.

Wh.

Do. What you say has a great deal in it, but let us believe ill or well of a Man, if he be not of our Party, and if his Qualifications and Abilities are such as make him dangerous to the Kingdom, and dangerous to us, we must never let him alone but pursue him with our utmost Malice.

Wh. I was last Night with Two of our Friends, Mr. Kingcheat and Mr. Robland, Gentlemen that are in good Posts now, if they can hold 'em, but it seems they are under some Apprehensions at present of being Question'd; They carry Things a great deal higher than you do, and say, That in the Invectives we utter, we ought to spare no Body, no not One that must be Nameless, if he continues to take Measures that thwart our Designs and Interest.

Do. They told you right, however do it darkly and ambiguously, and take Care not to Speak plain English till you see we are quite out of Hopes to get the Parliament dissolved. But 'tis late, the Exchange begins to fall, and 'tis Time for us to part.

Wh. Sir, I thank you for all your Favours, I beg you would have me to your Thoughts, and pray be pleas'd to represent to our noble Friends all my faithful Endeavours for their Service.

Do. I shall not fail to do it, and hope I may will so mend, that your Expectations may be answer'd.

TO MR. KINGCHEAT AND MR. ROBLAND, GENTLEMEN.
I have the Honour to receive your Letter of the 10th Instant, which I have perus'd with much Satisfaction, and am glad to hear that you are so well as to be able to write me without Envy.

